



**RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, November 9th, 2015**

Board Members in Attendance: Chair Bob Pierce, Laura Carlson, Pat Dennehy, Helen Hyatt, Forrest Merithew, Barry Mundt, Kim Reed

Staff in Attendance: Sandra Travis, Al Kopf, Pete Wall, Mark Halstead, Dee Black, Debbie Ivester, Roderick Simmons

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting of September 14th were approved on a motion made by Barry Mundt, and seconded by Pat Dennehy. Motioned passed in a unanimous vote.

2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. FY 2015-2016 Planning & Development 2-Year Plan (attachment)

As a follow up to the Capital Improvement and Deferred Maintenance Program presentation at RAB's meeting in September, Debbie Ivester provided supplemental material demonstrating a master project list and timeline.

3. NEW BUSINESS

a. Recognition of Service: Chris Pelly

Outgoing City Council Liaison Chris Pelly was recognized for his service to RAB. Chris thanked the Board and stated he was proud to support the Capital Improvements Project.

**b. RAB Visioning Work Session: Role and Responsibilities
Attachments: 1) RAB 2014 Goals, 2) City Council Contact List**

Chairman Pierce asked the RAB members to review the current 2014 RAB goals and contact list. Roderick stated that RAB may want to update or refresh the goals for the next year now that there are new members. Roderick advised that readdressing RAB's goals will allow RAB to present a more coherent viewpoint and a unified voice to Council in representing the community.

Chairman Pierce stated that with the new City Council elections that priorities within the Council shifted and RAB needs to think how it can make a difference. He then opened the floor for comments.

Debbie Ivester stated that the 2014 goals were created at a retreat and the goals are old now. In the past, one year is not typically long enough to make progress and may not be as imperative any longer.

Chris Pelly Council Liaison told RAB that from a Council perspective priorities are shifting and RAB should present its case for who they would like to be their advocate and also to ask advocates what they bring to the table besides advocacy.

Debbie added RAB needs to understand what City Council wants to hear from them, that sometimes you have to ask hard questions to help meet and determine what is feasible and what can help Council.

Pat Dennehy asked if Council has a timeline for the last greenspace property downtown. Chris Pelly informed him they do not at this time. Barry Mundt stated that given both RAB and Council's changeovers, he would recommend having a new retreat to review RAB goals.

Debbie informed RAB that of the current members only three participated in the last retreat. Staff will poll RAB members to find the best date for the retreat. She added that the new RAB member orientation use to include a tour of parks and facilities and since the tour has not been done in a while some members expressed interest in having one. She stated that a tour could be planned in February after the retreat in January.

Barry asked when a new Liaison will be appointed by Council. Roderick responded that Council will vote in January. Debbie added that according to the City Clerk's office, appointments will be made at the December 8th City Council meeting, which should allow the new Liaison to attend the retreat if we move forward with a January date.

The Chairman called for a consensus of planning the retreat for January and doing the tour in February. All agreed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM

a. Asheville City Council 15-16 Strategic Goals

Chairman Pierce stated that RAB can fold the City Council goals discussion into the retreat. The first step is to get a copy of the Council's new goals which Debbie will send out along with the results from the doodle poll to determine member availability. Pat stated he liked having the meeting at Shiloh and that it was more informative. Debbie stated we should plan the retreat at a center to allow for better parking such as at Montford or Stephens-Lee.

Chairman Pierce asked if there was any further business.

Laura Carlson asked if there is a list or calendar of events that RAB members should be attending. Debbie stated that she sends information via email but the primary events are attending public

meetings or community events. Each quarter RAB is given a Program Guide which lists the upcoming programs and events. Sandra Travis handed out the current Fall Program Guide. Dee Black announced that Tuesday November 17th will be the Senior Holiday Lunch at 10am at the Shiloh Center.

Forrest Merithew gave RAB a Greenway Committee update; letting them know last Thursday Lucy Crown toured the proposed sites with the Greenway Committee and showed them the plans. Also, he stated that they recommended where the energy plant and slope to the river is located that a retaining wall and their idea would be to make it into a climbing wall for kids.

6. ADJOURN

Chairman Pierce asked if there was any further comment, then motioned to adjourn, which Forrest seconded. Chair Bob Pierce adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m.